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March 16, 2009

Marion County Election Board 200 East Washington Street, Ste W-122 Indianapolis, IN 46204

Re: Northside Republican Council Committee

Honorable members of the Election Board.

I am writing in response to the fine assessed to the Northside Republican Campaign Committee, of which I am the acting Treasurer.

I do not deny my annual campaign finance report was filed late. I do, however, wish to appeal to the board to request the fine be waived or reduced.

In March of 2008 the committee filed a change of organization naming me as treasurer, replacing my longtime treasurer who was unable to serve. Along with this change came a change of address. I do not recall receiving the usual mailing form the Election Board. While I understand that a report is due in January, in the past I used the report I received in the mail as a reminder to call my treasurer. Since I now assumed the duties of treasurer the report did not get filed before the deadline.

Secondly, the committee had almost no activity. There was only one item of activity after the change of organization report in March of '08 (a \$100 expenditure).

I am now well aware of the duties I now oversee as the treasurer. I simply and respectfully ask the board to consider these conditions when making the decision on the fine.

As we all know, some committees when faced with this type of situation in the past have simply closed out accounts to avoid a fine. I will not do this. If the board decides a fine is necessary, I will abide by the decision and pay the fine. I believe my track record indicates this is a one time error and is not prone to be repeated.

Respectfully,

Scott M. Schneider

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